

cost estimate, and must identify the following elements.

(a) Sunk cost, which are all your eligible post-discovery exploration, development, and production expenses (no third party costs), and also include the eligible costs of the discovery well on the field. Report them in nominal dollars and only if you have documentation. We count sunk costs in an evaluation (specified in §203.68) as after-tax expenses, using nominal dollar amounts.

(b) Appraisal, delineation and development costs. Base them on actual spending, current authorization for expenditure, engineering estimates, or analogous projects. These costs cover:

- (1) Platform well drilling and average depth;
- (2) Platform well completion;
- (3) Subsea well drilling and average depth;
- (4) Subsea well completion;
- (5) Production system (platform); and
- (6) Flowline fabrication and installation.

(c) Production costs based on historical costs, engineering estimates, or analogous projects. These costs cover:

- (1) Operation;
- (2) Equipment; and
- (3) Existing royalty overrides (we will not use the royalty overrides in evaluations).

(d) Transportation costs, based on historical costs, engineering estimates, or analogous projects. These costs cover:

- (1) Oil or gas tariffs from pipeline or tankerage;
- (2) Trunkline and tieback lines; and
- (3) Gas plant processing for natural gas liquids.

(e) Abandonment costs, based on historical costs, engineering estimates, or analogous projects. You should provide the costs to plug and abandon only wells and to remove only production systems for which you have not incurred costs as of the time of application submission. You should also include a point estimate or distribution of prospective salvage value for all potentially reusable facilities and materials, along with the source and an explanation of the figures provided.

(f) A set of cost estimates consistent with each one of up to three field-de-

velopment scenarios and production profiles (conservative, most likely, optimistic). You should express costs in constant real dollar terms for the base year. You may also express the uncertainty of each cost estimate with a minimum and maximum percentage of the base value.

(g) A spending schedule. You should provide costs for each year (in real dollars) for each category in paragraphs (a) through (f) of this section.

(h) A summary of other costs which are ineligible for evaluating your need for relief. These costs cover:

- (1) Expenses before first discovery on the field;
- (2) Cash bonuses;
- (3) Fees for royalty relief applications;
- (4) Lease rentals, royalties, and payments of net profit share and net revenue share;
- (5) Legal expenses;
- (6) Damages and losses;
- (7) Taxes;
- (8) Interest or finance charges, including those embedded in equipment leases;
- (9) Fines or penalties; and
- (10) Money spent on previously existing obligations (e.g., royalty overrides or other forms of payment for acquiring a financial position in a lease, expenditures for plugging wells and removing and abandoning facilities that existed on the application submission date).

#### **§203.90 What is in a fabricator's confirmation report?**

This report shows you have committed in a timely way to the approved system for production. This report must include the following (or its equivalent for unconventionally acquired systems):

(a) A copy of the contract(s) under which the fabrication yard is building the approved system for you;

(b) A letter from the contractor building the system to the MMS's GOM Regional Supervisor—Production and Development, certifying when construction started on your system; and

(c) Evidence of an appropriate down payment or equal action that you've started acquiring the approved system.